

**The Trust for Public Land
Conserving Land for People**



Conserving Land for People



Creating a Conservation Vision

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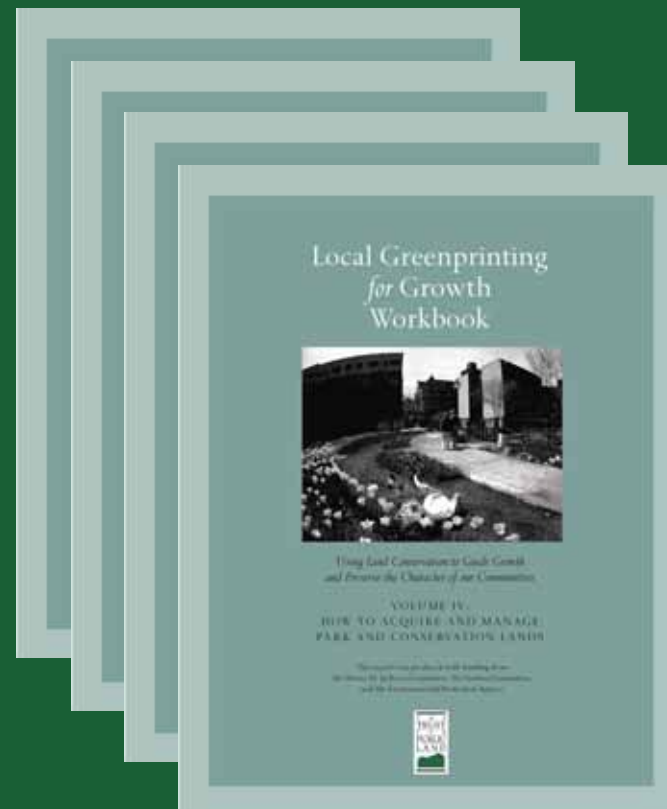
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The Trust for Public Land



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Local Greenprinting for Growth





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Local Greenprinting for Growth



- Defining a Conservation Vision
- Securing Conservation Funds
- Acquiring and Managing Park and Conservation Lands



Creating a Conservation Vision

Assess Value of Open Space

1. Understand community values and cost/benefits of open space

2. Consider all the benefits

3. Determine the initiative scope.

4. Inventory natural and cultural features

5. Assess public priorities

6. Define Goals

7. Set Targets

8. Take the lead

9. Include public participation

10. Develop partnerships

Facilitate
Visioning Process

Leadership,
Participation, &
Partnership



How to Assess the Value of Open Space

Consider...

- The Bottom Line
- The Benefits to the Economy
- The Benefits to the Community
- Health and Environment Benefits
- Infrastructure Benefits
- Flood Prevention Benefits



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Consider the Bottom Line:

A 1998 study conducted by TPL examining the relationship between land conservation and property taxes in Massachusetts found that, in the long run, towns that had protected the most land enjoyed the lowest tax rates.*

**Community Choices: Thinking through Land Conservation, Development, and Property Taxes in Massachusetts, Trust for Public Land, 1998*



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Consider the Benefits to the Economy:

In a 2001 survey conducted for the National Association of Realtors by Public Opinion Strategies, 50 percent of the respondents said they would be willing to pay 10 percent more for a house located near a park or other protected open space.*

**The impacts of Parks and Open Space on Property Values and Property Tax Base, National Recreation & Park Association, 2000*



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Consider the Benefits to the Community:

A 2003 study conducted by the University of Missouri-St. Louis found that St. Louis neighborhoods with community gardens were more stable than other neighborhoods in the city.

** The Whitmire Study, Gateway Greening, 2003*



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Consider the Health and Environment Benefits:

In a study published by the CDC, creation of or enhanced access to places for physical activity led to a 26 percent increase in the percentage of people exercising on 3 or more days per week.*

** Increasing Physical Activity: A Report on Recommendations of the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, Center for Disease Control, 2001*



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Consider the Infrastructure Benefits:



TPL helped New York City acquire 80,000 acres of its upstate watershed rather than spend \$8 billion on a water filtration plant that required an additional \$300 million annually in operating costs.*

* National Association of Counties, *Local Greenprinting for Growth Vol II*, 2003



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Consider the Flood Prevention Benefits:

“It has been found that watersheds containing 15% of their area as wetlands had flood peaks that were 60% lower than those with no wetlands”

* Trust for Public Land, *Protecting the Source*, 1998



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Facilitating the Visioning Process



- Determine the initiative scope.
- Assess public priorities
- Inventory natural and cultural features
- Define Goals
- Set Targets



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Determine Scope:

Portland, Oregon





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Determine the Scope:



Kansas City MetroGreen

- Preserve and protect stream corridors
- Link destinations including home/school and home/work
- Provide off road corridors for non-motorized transportation
- Protect and restore native habitat
- Promote private/public partnerships for future maintenance and stewardship



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Assess Public Priorities:

- Public opinion polls
- Focus groups
- Written surveys or comments
- Interactive web sites or kiosks
- Maps, newsletters, brochures
- Press coverage

Inventory Natural and Cultural Features:

Commonly Protected Land and Water Resources

Natural Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Floodplains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent development in areas prone to flooding, landslides, fire and other natural hazards • Maintain natural storm water runoff and absorption areas • Protect water quality • Provide greenways and other recreational lands
Critical or Sensitive Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wetlands or aquifer recharge zones ➤ Wildlife Habitat and Corridors ➤ Ecologically Significant Lands ➤ Riparian Buffer Zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect drinking water quality • Preserve wetlands • Provide access to lakes and streams • Manage commercial fisheries • Manage game species • Preserve fish and wildlife habitat
Agricultural, Forest, Scenic Preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prime Agricultural & Ranch Lands ➤ Productive Forests ➤ Scenic Vistas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help a community maintain its agricultural and ranching economy and heritage • Support sound foresting policies that support the local economy • Preserve scenic vistas and areas of beauty • Enhance tourist economy
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Trails ➤ Parks and Greenways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop multiuse trail systems linking open space and parks • Stimulate economic, community and neighborhood revitalization through conservation



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Define Goals:

Miami River Greenway





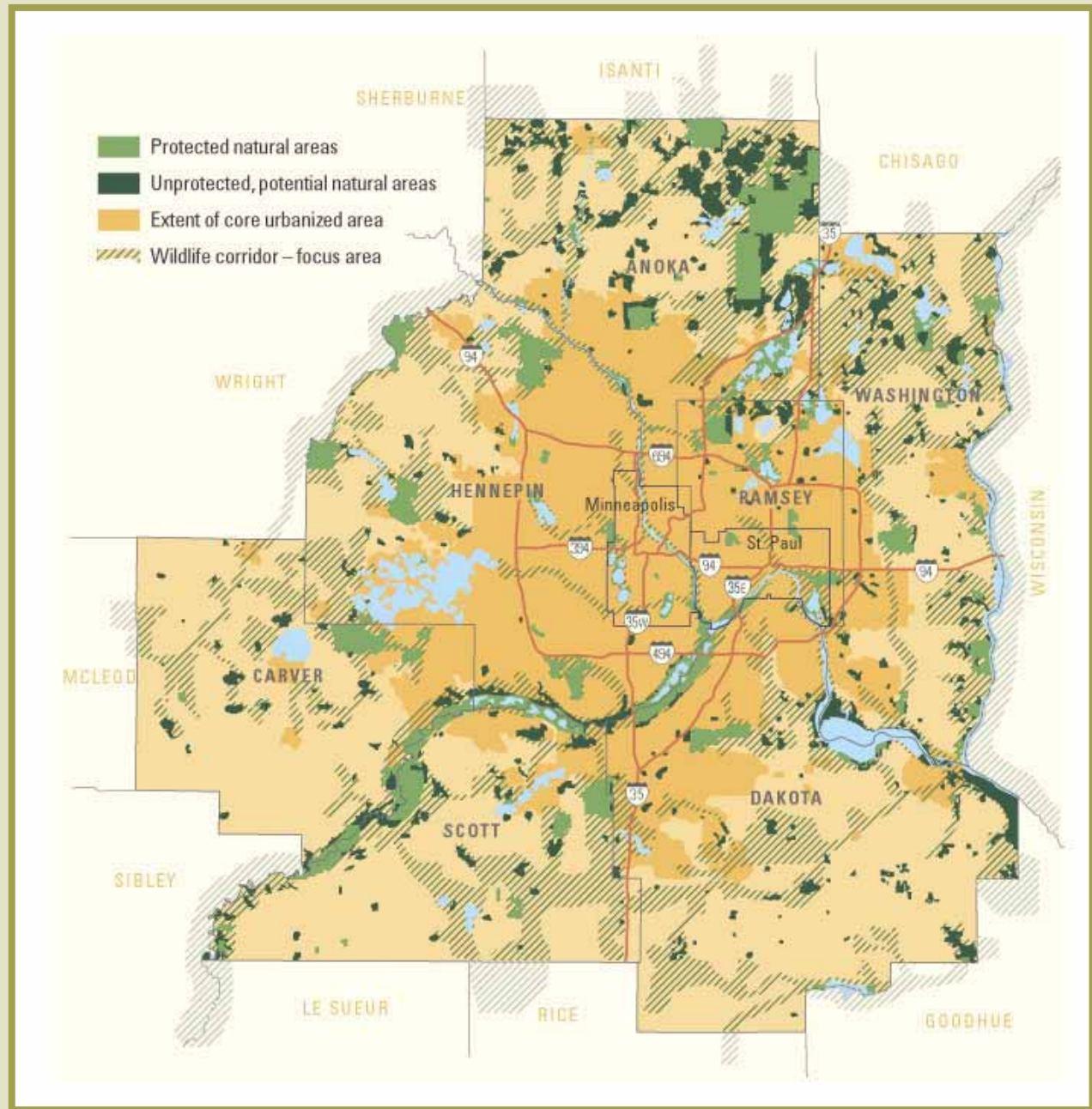
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Set Targets:

- Location – Is it in the targeted area?
- Financial Status – Is there a financial incentive?
- Development Pressure – Is it large enough to affect sprawl?
- Public Support – Will it benefit the community?
- Landowner Status – Are there willing sellers?

Set Targets:

Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Map





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Take the Lead:



- **Provide Leadership**
- **Encourage Public Participation**
- **Facilitate Partnerships**



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Provide Leadership:





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Public Participation:



Kansas City MetroGreen

- A series of public workshops
- The MetroGreen Technical Advisory Committee
- MetroGreen Civic Alliance



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Develop Partnerships:



The Bruce Vento
Nature Sanctuary
partners

St. Paul, MN

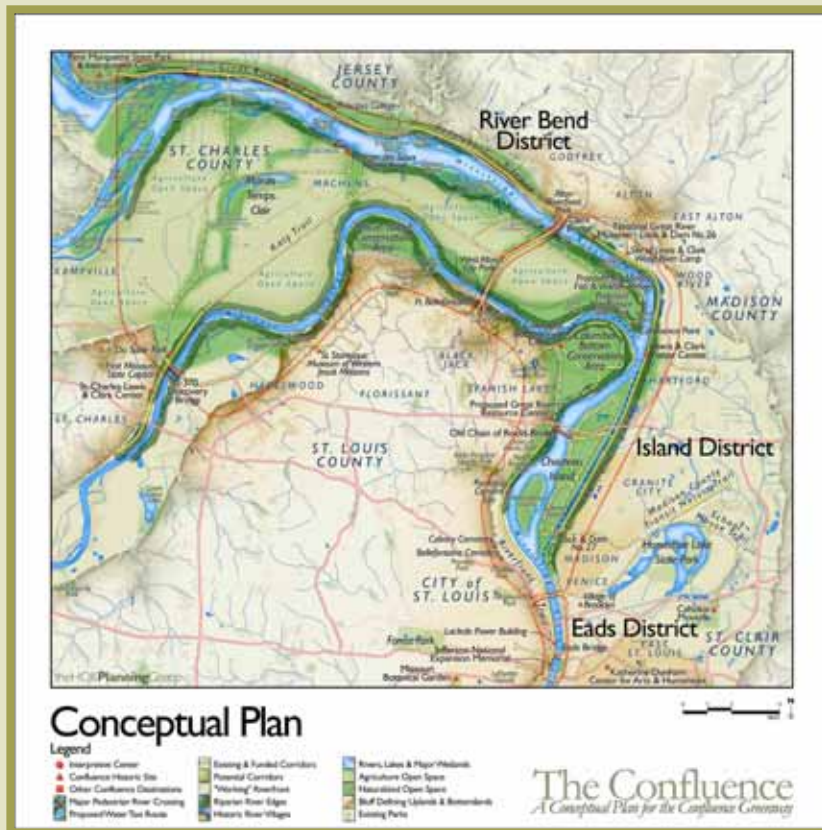


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Develop Partnerships:

St. Louis 2004

- Think 2004 Community Visioning Sessions
- Parks and Trails Open Space Task Force
- Nonprofit organization Gateway Parks and Trails 2004
- Citizens for Clean Water, Safe Parks and Community Trails





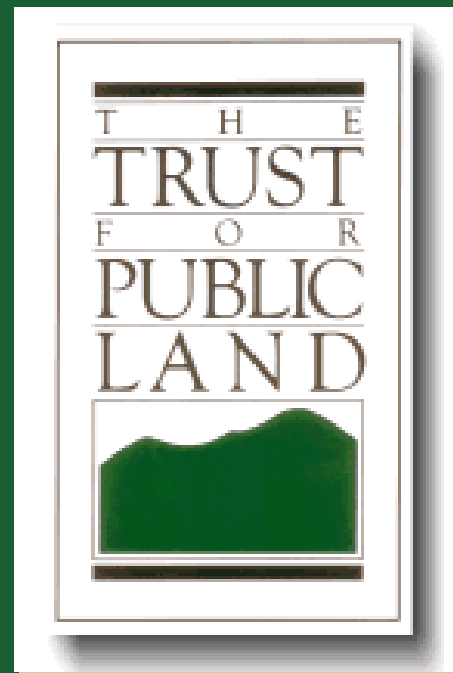
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Defining a Conservation Vision:

- Understand Community values and cost/benefits of open space
- Determine the initiatives scope
- Inventory natural and cultural features
- Assess public priorities
- Define goals
- Set targets
- Take the lead
- Encourage public participation and engage partnerships



The Trust for Public Land Conserving Land for People



Visit TPL at www.tpl.org



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Develop Partnerships:



Clinton River Trail, Michigan